



Peace talks begin between  
Israel and Palestine

Vol. 35, Issue 12

## Dr. Ernie Bond wins Maryland Teacher of the Year Award

By Sara Sutton  
Staff Writer

Dr. Ernie Bond, a Salisbury University professor of the education department, won 2007 Maryland Professor of the Year, a first for any college on the Eastern Shore.

Started in 1981, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) has been presenting the award to honor the most collegiate instructors in the country.

"This is not the kind of award that an individual can win without a very supportive environment, so it reflects highly on my department and the Salisbury University community," Bond said.

Bond was presented this award on Nov. 14 at the Inter-Continental Hotel and Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

This is the second award for excellence Bond has received this year. In the spring semester he won the Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching presented by the University System of Maryland.

"To be recognized by two such distinguished institutions places Dr. Bond in the forefront of educators nationwide," said SU President Janet Dudley - Eshbach. "Salisbury University is now widely recognized as a Maryland university of national



Kathy Pusey photo  
SU professor Dr. Ernie Bond

distinction. Dr. Bond's award epitomizes the meaning of that expression. Our students are fortunate to have a professor who brings the world into his classroom and takes them out into the world. He is an exemplary mentor, teacher and colleague."

Bond is an expert in children's literature and teaches both upper level undergraduate and graduate courses on the subject.

"There are many things my college students need to learn about using literature as future teachers, but the most important is to instill in kids an excitement and inquisitiveness about what they are reading," Bond said.

Bond has taken Salisbury University students abroad to Iceland, England, Australia, New Zealand and Germany. He has also been known to work extensively online, bringing in authors from all over as well as connecting SU students to children in China, Estonia and New Zealand. iPod shuffles and audio books have also made it into his class room to encourage students into reading.

"The world is Ernie's classroom," said Dr. Nancy Michelson of SU's Education Specialties Department. "Since arriving at SU in 1999, he has combined his passion for worldwide children's literature with his extensive technological expertise to introduce his students to global experiences that go far beyond the classroom."

# THE FLYER



Salisbury University's Student Voice



Rising birth control prices  
impact college students

December 4, 2007

## Wayne Gilchrest shares his perspectives on the war

By Sarah Lake  
Editor in Chief

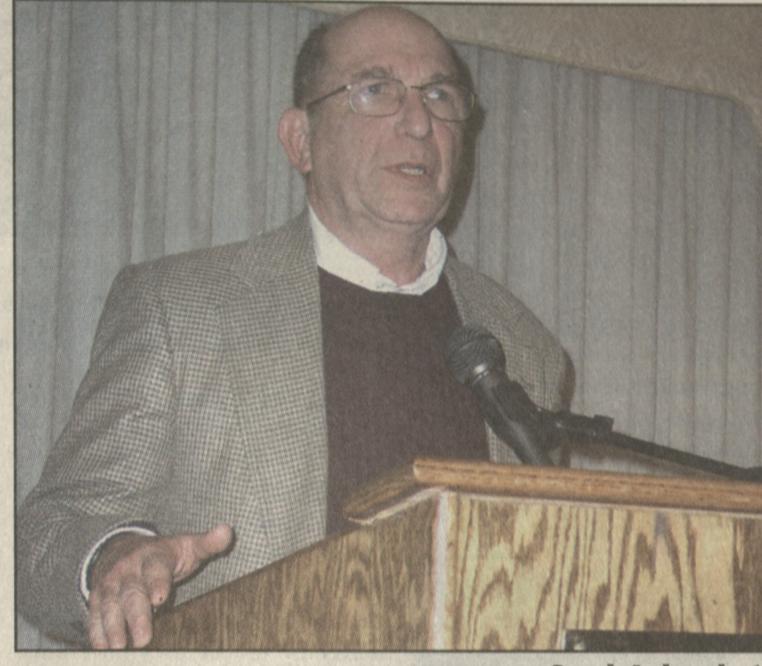
Congressman Wayne Gilchrest outlined his perspectives on the War in Iraq Thursday night to a full house in the Worcester Room above the Commons. During his speech, he stressed the importance of an open dialogue with Middle Eastern countries as the next step forward in the United States' role in Iraq.

"The way forward for the United States is to be seen as an objective participant in dialogue about the political, economic and military future of the Middle East," Gilchrest said.

Gilchrest began his speech by quoting Norman Cousins, former editor of the *Saturday Night Post* and author of *Human Options*, a book about making a decision on any level, whether it is political or personal.

"Knowledge is the solvent of danger." Acquiring information; becoming competent - easily the best solution for getting a problem solved," he said. "Norman Cousins also said, 'History is a vast early warning system.' Know something about the region. Know something about the conflicts of the past."

Gilchrest provided the audience with a historical frame of reference that he claims he has used to "understand the nature and the



Sarah Lake photo  
Congressman Wayne Gilchrest spoke to a full house on Thursday night as he expressed the importance of an open dialogue in the Middle East.

complexity of the culture and the religion of the fractured region we know as the Middle East; upon which leads to how I vote in Congress."

He referenced President Eisenhower's response to Chief Director of the Soviet Union Nikita Khrushchev's 1959 threat to "bury" the United States with nuclear weapons. "What was President Eisenhower's response to all this rhetoric?" He invited [Khrushchev] to the United States

- to visit New York City; to visit farms; to ride the train. There was a dialogue."

According to Gilchrest, when Washington received intelligence reports stating that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld prematurely put a plan into action to enter Iraq, ignoring the military's opposition to such an invasion. Rumsfeld needed 500,000 troops to secure the roads with convoys, to secure

the borders so that foreign insurgents could not come in and to secure the cities after the capture and fall of Saddam Hussein. "But we were unsuccessful because there weren't enough troops. And maybe there would have never been enough troops. That's a debate for the Army and War College," Gilchrest said.

About two weeks ago, the House had a meeting with the current Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates. "We may not have listened to the military in the past, but we're listening to them now," Secretary Gates said.

Gilchrest has been to Iraq three times since the beginning of the war. During his latest trip in October, he claimed that military commanders said that the military can no longer sustain "this type of deployment of American military forces in this region, at this state."

The draw down of troops, Gilchrest said, has begun. "By June, there will be 30,000 less troops in Iraq. And after June, the pace of the draw down will continue and the pace will be more accurately determined."

Gilchrest continually stresses to his Congressional colleagues that the debate over whether or not to withdraw is over. "We need to begin talking about how we can SEE GILCHREST on pg 2

## SU student faces sexual abuse charges



Internet photo  
Student Jenna Ashley Herrmann

By Sean Gossard  
News Editor

Allegations arose Tuesday against 23-year-old SU history education student Jenna Ashley Herrmann regarding charges of sexual relations with a 14-year-old boy.

Herrmann worked as a teacher's assistant at Pittsville Elementary and Middle School and is currently being held at the Wicomico County Detention Center on a \$100,000 bond.

Herrmann is being charged with two counts of second-degree custody child abuse, two counts of third-degree sex offense, two counts of sex abuse of a minor and two counts of fourth-degree sex offense.

The alleged sexual abuse took place at both the victim's and Herrmann's residences from Oct. 1 until Nov. 27, according to a press release issued by Wicomico County State's Attorney Davis Ruark.

Prosecutors say that three witnesses have stepped forward claiming to have information on the case. One witness claimed Herrmann sent him nude pictures of herself and letters inviting him to have sex.

Another witness claimed to have received pictures of Herrmann and the 14-year-old having sex.

One witness also stated that Herrmann asked if he wanted to have sex, to which he replied yes, but was unable to because his sister was there.

"We take these allegations very seriously," Vice President of Student Affairs Ellen Neufeldt said.

"Even if this isn't true, teachers should never act in a way that would lead people to think this has happened," said education major Ariana DeCampo.

"I want to reassure you that the University takes allegations such as these very seriously, and will take appropriate and timely action to ensure the safety of our campus and the broader community," said Neufeldt in her e-mail to the campus on Thursday.

Another e-mail was released from the president's office on Friday reassuring the campus that SU's education department maintains the highest standards of its students.

"We've worked hard on our relationship with the community," said Dean of the Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies Dr. Dennis Pataniczek. Both Pataniczek and Neufeldt said they remain positive about SU's relationship with the community.

Herrmann was suspended from the school on Tuesday by her SU supervisors and placed on interim suspension at SU. The 14-year-old was transferred out of Pittsville Elementary and Middle School to another school in the county.

## Renewable Energy conference investigates the conservation of current and future energy sources

By Jonathan Moynihan  
Staff Writer



Adrienne Price photo  
Roughly 50 researchers, professors and professionals attended the conference to discuss new sources of energy such as bio-fuels, wind, geothermal, solar and nuclear power.

This past Thursday, Salisbury University's BEACON (Business, Economics, and Community Outreach Network) hosted the ShoreENERGY Renewable Energy Conference, addressing the conservation of current and future energy sources.

Roughly 50 researchers, professors and professionals gathered in attendance to discuss new sources of energy such as bio-fuels, wind, geothermal, solar and nuclear power, with speakers whose expertise provided key information about possible renewable sources.

"[Energy] is central to the economy, national security and the environment," said Director of ShoreENERGY Danny Ervin.

The conference began with traditional introductions briefly touching on several key issues and then thanked SU for hosting this key opportunity for these leaders in research to discuss such an important topic.

"SU is uniquely positioned to provide an unbiased arena to discuss the objectives and issues that need to be faced," said Tyler Claggett, associate director of ShoreENERGY.

The agenda then switched to bio-fuels, the first energy source to be discussed that day. Reggie Harrell, Professor of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences at the University of Maryland, began with general statistics proving how the energy crisis is a real, threatening issue.

"Ninety-three percent of energy comes from non-renewable sources,"

said Harrell. "Sixty percent of US Petroleum is imported, 40 percent of that from OPEC countries."

Harrell went on to explain the topic of corn and its use in ethanol.

He explained that ethanol is a great source of energy for the future; however, it cannot meet the demands in every aspect. Agriculture, transportation and commercial industries all desire corn producing ethanol as alternative energy sources, but there simply isn't enough to go around, he said. Even poultry companies need corn.

Sixty-five to seventy percent of the chicken diet is corn, and the Delmarva Peninsula only produced

63 percent of its yearly average this past year.

"We cannot meet the need for fuel

demands with corn if we try to meet every aspect of the demand," Harrell said.

After bio-fuels, the agenda drifted to other energy sources including solar power. President and CEO of Prescient Marketing, Dave Buemi, discussed the future of solar energy,

but also the fact that nations outside of the United States have already largely begun depending on alternative sources of energy.

When asked why the United States was behind on its dependency of alternative sources, Buemi said it was due to the leadership of the nation and its government.

"Our government can't seem to think outside the box," Buemi said.

"It's in a paradox of supporting the older companies. There are structural

issues, that without change, no big change can occur unless new leaders break through."

The issue of renewable energy and conservation is a serious and pressing one, facing current and future generations.

But perhaps it was good that this conference was not directed specifically towards the students, considering one speaker was found dozing off during another's presentation.

The answers to solving future energy problems are still being investigated, but as research increases for new and renewable energy sources, the future looks bright.

"It's a collection of solutions. A portfolio of generating assets including all alternative energy sources," Ervin said.

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TUESDAY 12/4/07	WEDNESDAY 12/5/07	THURSDAY 12/6/07	FRIDAY 12/7/07	SATURDAY 12/8/07	SUNDAY 12/9/07	MONDAY 12/10/07
HIGH 44	HIGH 44	HIGH 39	HIGH 46	HIGH 49	HIGH 55	HIGH 54
PARTLY CLOUDY	SNOW SHOWERS	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW 33	LOW 30	LOW 28	LOW 36	LOW 32	LOW 42	LOW 39

# News briefs

## Blackwell Library, Leash on Life sponsor annual Homeless Pet Collection

By Katelyn Johnson  
Staff Writer

**A Cappella Concert**  
SQUAWKAPPELLA, Salisbury's only A Cappella Group, is having a concert tonight, Tuesday, Dec. 4 at 8:15 pm in Caruthers Auditorium! The performance is free and open to the public. Don't miss it - it's a Shore Thing!

### Jazz Band performs at SU

The Jazz Ambassadors, the United States Army's premier jazz orchestra, perform at Salisbury University at 2 pm Sunday, Dec. 9, in Holloway Hall Auditorium. The concert is part of the 19-member big band's "Home for the Holidays" tour.

**Volunteers needed for commencement ceremony**  
Volunteers are needed for commencement on Saturday, Dec. 15, to help with guest seating, programs and related duties. Volunteers report to the Civic Center at 10 a.m. and finish at the conclusion of the ceremony estimated at 4:30 pm. Interested students or staff should contact Tammy Gharbi at [tgharbi@salisbury.edu](mailto:tgharbi@salisbury.edu)

### NCUR volunteers needed

400 to 500 volunteers are needed for the NCUR conference, hosted by SU. From setting conference packets, to providing airport shuttles, to monitoring poster sessions, volunteers are needed both before and during the conference (April 10-12). In addition, NCUR organizers are looking for faculty moderators to assist with student presentations and poster sessions. All volunteers will receive a free conference T-shirt. Other benefits include the opportunity to network with students and faculty from campuses across the United States. To register as a volunteer, visit the SU NCUR Web site. For more information, contact Heather Holmes at [hwholmes@salisbury.edu](mailto:hwholmes@salisbury.edu).

Donations can be dropped off in Blackwell Library between Nov. 12 and Dec. 20.



Sarah Wright photo

## SU's Relay for Life team gears up for another year

By Jennifer Garrison  
Staff Writer

Salisbury University's Relay for Life team held their first meeting to encourage student participation and begin this year's fight for a cure against cancer on Nov. 28. In coordination with the American Cancer Society, the Relay for Life at SU will be held on May 2-3, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

The Relay Team already raised \$496 before the first meeting and 22 teams with 103 participants are already registered for the event. Students are urged to sign up now; while registration is free. After winter break, it will cost \$10 for students to register.

"We are hoping to have as many student organizations sign-up to help as possible. We were very successful last year and we are hoping we can continue and have another fabulous event," said Agata Lisszowska, Relay for Life advisor.

Full participation from clubs, residential halls, fraternities and sororities and all students and faculty is being encouraged. Salisbury University was awarded 4th in the nation for an outstanding mission for Relay for Life last year. In 2007, they raised \$101,000 for the fight for the cure. The goal for the upcoming Relay is \$125,000.

"We are very excited for this year's relay and are encouraging everyone possible to participate. The best thing to fight for is a cure and we are just so excited and ready to start fundraising," said Sam Klenkel, Team Recruitment Leader.

Student leaders were also excited to announce the theme for this year's relay: "Lights, Camera, Cure." In

influence on the Middle East. They are ready to help us stabilize the conflict between the sects inside of an independent Arab state in Iraq. The Iranians have a natural fear of the Arabs. We need to see the Arab world through the eyes of the Iranians. The U.S. is opening up a dialogue with Iran that would do that."

The conflict in Iraq, now, in Gilcrest's opinion, is not a civil war. He says that it is a conflict between the Iraqis trying to vie for power. "It is a multi-layered, complex situation between the sects. At

that point though, the American military is the skeletal structure upon which the Iraqis depend. We can't sustain our troop levels but as our troops are drawing down, the explicit diplomacy implemented into that most fractured region of the world can make all the difference."

According to Gilcrest, a relationship with the Iranians would bring back to the region some sense of a balance of power. "The Arabs do not want Iran to have too much

## Students report 13 break-ins over Thanksgiving



Leslie Pusey photo

University Village, along with various other common SU student residence areas, experienced numerous break-ins over Thanksgiving break.

By Shari M. Carew  
Staff Writer

This past Thanksgiving break, 13 break-ins concerning Salisbury University students were reported.

This includes homes in University Village on Oiley Road, university townhouses on Honey Suckle Drive, Cedar Crossing, Smith Street and the New Zoo.

The common trend for entry was cutting the screen on windows and sliding open un-locked windows. The only vandalism that occurred was the breaking open of locked doors within the residences. Other than taking cash out of one home, no other items of value were reported stolen.

"They know the area and know you're a college student. Notify a neighbor, make sure windows and doors are locked and secure; come by here and let us know that you're going to be gone, we'll do a Dwellings Temporarily Vacant," said Lieutenant Ron Kemp of the Salisbury Police Department.

Filling out Dwelling Temporarily Vacant form alerts police to do patrol checks of your residence.

With the approach of winter break it's important to pay close attention to e-mails from the campus police on safety precautions for both individuals and their residences.

Leaving on lights and stopping the flow of mail to your residence can help these precautions. It's important to remember to take portable items of expense.

"They know the area and know you're a college student. Notify a

## Eshbach strives for a green SU campus

By Matt Harhai  
Staff Writer

Salisbury University President Janet Dudley-Eshbach has enlisted SU in a pledge to establish climate neutrality on campus, joining many other institutions making an effort to lessen the consumption of energy and release of carbon emissions in order to help stop global warming.

The pledge, called the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, employs an agenda aimed at reaching goals.

The enthusiasm filled the room and the "Wall of Hope" showed the signatures of the many people dedicated to the fight for a cure. Huge banners announced the American Cancer Society's ideal, "Hope, Celebrate, Remember, and Fight Back!"

The "Relay Walk of Fame" banner recognized the best teams from last year and also the top ten fundraising individuals.

The meeting featured creative "commercial breaks" produced by the American Cancer Society encouraging participation in the fight for a cure. Also, each participant received a paper star on which they were asked to write the reason why they were relaying.

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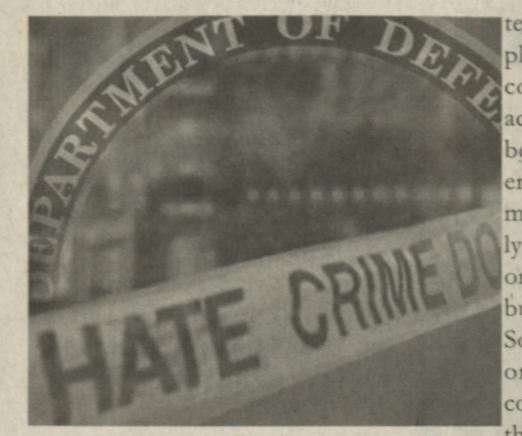
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The enthusiasm filled the room and the "Wall of Hope

## Ignorant offenders "guard" themselves by victimizing others



By Kathleen Fitzpatrick  
Staff Writer

The world is made up of many different people; people of different race, religion and sexual orientation. It's because of these differences that make the world interesting. Without any cultural differences, the world would be a very boring place. Unfortunately, it's because of these differences that people are hated, berated and even tortured.

Has crimes occur when one group of people victimizes another group simply because of their connection to a certain social group dealing with race, class, religion, gender, age, ethnicity or sexual orientation. The crimes, used to instill fear in the victim and the social group they belong to, are usually the direct result of ignorance and the inability to accept or understand something different from what one is used to. In many cases, people are afraid of things they don't understand. When someone is presented with a culture other than the one they are used to, it can be terrifying to them. There are people who make attempts to understand cultures they don't have a complete understanding of. However, there are also those who are too scared of differences, and attack what is making them uncomfortable.

Hate crimes can also occur un-

tentionally. Sometimes people do not understand the consequences of their actions and how they will be viewed by or affect others.

When someone commits a hate crime, it not only impacts the individual but the community as well. Someone who is younger, or more impressionable, could be around to witness the crime or hear about the crime if they see someone they admire or look up to do it, they may think it is ok to act that way. A perfect example of this is the movie *American History X* directed by Tony Kaye.

In *American History X*, Derek Vineyard, formerly a bright student at school, is sucked into a world of white supremacy when his father is killed by a black drug dealer while fighting a fire. He joins the Disciples of Christ (D.O.C.) under the leadership of Cameron Alexander, an organization extremely racist against African Americans and people of the Jewish religion, or anyone different than what they considered "perfect."

Derek Vineyard eventually ends up in jail for killing two black men. When he is released from prison after three years, he returns to find his younger brother Danny is following in his footsteps because he looked up to Derek. Danny joined the D.O.C. and has adapted to the white supremacist beliefs.

Derek did not realize the consequence of his younger brother becoming involved in hateful crimes and actions against other people, and afterward regrets his involvement with the D.O.C. and showing his younger brother his ignorance. Many people do not realize that there is always someone watching you, someone more impressionable, someone who may think that it is ok to do hateful

things to other people without consequence.

While not recognizing the consequences of certain actions, it does not excuse people from receiving punishment. However, it can also act as a learning experience. Some people may get carried away with a situation they don't really understand and do something they regret. A person may think they have control over the situation, but they don't, and realize this in hindsight. Something that may appear to be a harmless joke to one person may truly hurt the person the joke is being done to. Sometimes people get caught up in childish arguments and do not realize that certain things they say or do to someone could be more serious than they realize, and truly impact the other person. In some situations, the action/joke does not reflect the values or beliefs of the person, but that they simply got caught up in a situation they didn't truly understand.

There is always more than one option in any situation. There is the easy way, the way that is most obvious, and there is the harder way, the way that is always second best. However, some people don't stop to weigh the consequences of certain options, or to think of an alternative. Sometimes, people get caught up in a situation they can only see one solution. Often times, the realization of the severity of some actions does not occur until it is too late. Even if someone is not aware of how hurtful something can be, if they think it will be hurtful at all, no action toward another person should take place.

There is never any excuse for doing anything hateful or hurtful to anyone. One of the main causes of hate crimes is ignorance. Because people are scared of what is not in their everyday lives, or they don't understand different cultures, races and ethnicities, they guard themselves from it by victimizing others.

The fourth slot goes to Victoria

Hale. Hale started the Institute for OneWorld Health, a non-profit United States drug company. Hale's goal is to develop affordable pharmaceuticals for the developing world.

"I wanted to do something that would put the world in a new place, put it on a new path," Hale said in an article for MSNBC.

The article said that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave OneWorld Health \$150 million to continue its efforts.

"She had a vision," said Tachi Yamada, an employee for the Gates Foundation, in the MSNBC article.

The final two members of this list are the former presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton. The two joined forces to lead the U.S. response to the 2004 tsunami that wreaked havoc throughout the Indian Ocean region. They also raised money to help the Hurricane Katrina victims.

"The partnership has its advantages, as well as its limits, for both clowns. And the two men still have their differences. But Bush and Clinton have created a new post-presidential brand and put it to

work sealing the cracks between public need and public aid—and reminded us of what people can accomplish even in an era of deep partisanship," a *TIME* magazine article said in 2006.

It was an unlikely match-up between two people with opposing views. However, their efforts have helped millions in America and around the world. It goes to show that despite political differences and viewpoints, people can work together.

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Even a person who seems insignificant can make a difference.

The person who just says please and thank you is making a difference to someone.



Internet photo

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WORD  
OF THE  
WEEK  
OUNDS  
LIKE:  
"splinter  
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**LAST  
WEEK'S  
ANSWER:  
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Internet photo

## THE FLYER'S WEEKLY GLOBAL EDUCATION Six people making a world of difference

By Stacie Manger  
Staff Writer

All over the world people are trying to create change. This is a list and an explanation of some well-known people who are trying to make a difference in the world.

The first is J.K. Rowling, the author of the *Harry Potter* series. You may ask why she is included, or why she is even first on this list. It is because she captivated the world with a story. People waited in lines at midnight to get copies of books four through seven.

"I love reading and I've read every single one of the books," said Michelle Walsh, an SU junior. "I've seen people who hate reading pick them up. I've seen children become obsessed with the Harry Potter world. J.K. Rowling is truly amazing."

Children who do not usually read picked up these books and got lost in a world where magic exists and people cast spells and fly on broomsticks. Rowling gave the world an imagination.

The second and third members of the list are Bill and Melinda Gates. They have formed the most charitable program, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Last year, according to *TIME* magazine, the Gates' "committed \$750 million to improving access to child immunizations, accelerating introduction of new vaccines and strengthening vaccine delivery systems."

"Our work begins with Bill and Melinda Gates' belief that all lives have equal value. We think all people deserve the chance to have healthy, productive lives," the foundation's homepage said.

One of the foundation's goals is to increase opportunity and equity for those in need. Bill and Melinda Gates give away money from their computer software empire in order to help the world.

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The Flyer

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## Letter to the Commercialization ruins true spirit of Christmas

By Jeremy Riffle  
Staff Writer

I would like to thank the group of students who walked all over the campus on Tuesday evening of November 27 to bring a snack of chips and soda to the housekeepers, thanking us for the work we do. I hope they know how much we appreciate this kind, sincere gesture.

In a town where we hear so much negativity regarding our students, I wish more focus was placed on the many wonderful, selfless acts they often are not given credit for. They give of their time to entertain the community's children on Fun Day. They volunteer throughout the community and hold fundraising events. They give selflessly to the regional animal shelters by donating food, toys, blankets, towels and other needed items. Just think of all the entertainment they provide for the people in the area with music, theater, art, song, sports, etc. The list goes on and on.

I have worked at SU for almost 19 years and I love and appreciate our students. I wouldn't have my job without them. They are friendly, cheerful and helpful, and we now know we are appreciated as well. Thanks again for being so thoughtful.

Elizabeth Wallace  
Housekeeper Supervisor  
Blackwell Library/Maggs PAC

**Thank you for your readership this semester!**  
**Have a safe and happy holiday!**  
**- Sarah Lake,**  
**Editor in Chief**  
**The Flyer**

## Rising birth control prices impact college students

By Rachel Vontobel  
Staff Writer

Millions of female college students are paying more for birth control pills than ever before, following a change in federal law. Women's reproductive rights, a continuous topic of controversy, are once again being tested after college students and activists begin the fight against the increase in price of birth control.

This past January, Congress passed a 2005 bill that focuses on Medicaid-related rebates paid to states. Medicaid is the main federal health insurance program for the poor. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 has affected college health centers because they are not able to receive the reduced rate for birth control and are forced to charge more. Now that pharmaceutical companies have to pay more for Medicaid, they had to cut rebates in other areas. Health centers were able to stock up on birth control before the bill came into effect, but most are running out of the supply.

Prescription birth control is 99.7% effective, making it the most reliable form of contraception. Officials from Planned Parenthood are worried that students who discontinue the use will see an increase in unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

College females are now paying two to three times more than they previously had. College and health



Internet photo

Christmas, along with the entire holiday season, has been hijacked. Not just a period of time where feelings of peace, joy, charity and goodwill abound, the holiday season is in danger of becoming a deluxe version of Presidents Day, a holiday that only has significance to those who exploit the omnipresent sales held in its honor.

Retailers, desiring to exploit as much as possible on the tradition of gift giving, are the most culpable in the increasing commercialization of Christmas. Their influence on the culture of the holidays can be seen almost everywhere.

On the television, there are commercials preaching messages not of peace or joy, but of buying and receiving. One such commercial has a little girl that, when asked if she believes in Santa, replies with "I believe in cashmere."

Not only is this commercial ridiculous, but the implication of it is that some people, in the retailer-sponsored belief that their loved ones want to be given gifts that are expensive, spend too much trying to buy presents and wreak havoc on their finances.

Another issue is the creation of selfish individuals who do not expect expensive gifts, such as the fictitious girl who believes in cashmere instead of Santa. These persons do not understand the meaning of the holiday season, and look forward only to receiving presents from the people unlucky enough to know them.

The importance placed on Black Friday is another way in which the holidays are exploited by retailers. Traditionally, the Christmas season begins the day after Thanksgiving. As Christmas gifts are a virtually essential aspect of the holiday season, retailers have decided to kick off the holiday season with a bang. The practice of having massive markdowns and opening doors to customers early for Friday morning has not only increased business for the stores, but has had the unfortunate side effect of fostering a competitive spirit among shoppers trying to find the best deals on Christmas presents.

The resulting greed and chaos at the stores is not really a good example of the Christmas spirit of goodwill and charity.

Another example of the increasing commercialism of Christmas is that the Christmas season is arriving earlier and earlier each successive year. There are even some stores that have begun selling Christmas items before Halloween. The reason why this is happening is not because retailers are feeling the

## 'Tis the season to support our troops: Shopping at Sears and Kmart benefits military families

By Lauren Zarin  
Staff Writer

burden they bear at this time.

The corporation's munificence doesn't end with the pay differential.

In 2001, Sears Logistics Services (a subsidiary of SHC) became a founding member of the Partnership for Youth Success (PAYS). The company's Web site explains that the program is an "army recruiting tool designed to provide civilian jobs to qualified soldiers" upon completion of their initial tour of duty. When soldiers enlist, if they express interest in future employment with SHC, they are put on a list to be provided "prior application" when their service ends. SLS also became a founding member of the Army Spouse Employment Partnership (ASEP) in 2002. The program offers spouses of service members a resource for finding employment and meeting short and long term employment goals.

Overall, SHC is genuinely concerned with preserving and/or improving the financial security of soldiers and their families.

SHC has been involved in countless other campaigns, organizations and activities to benefit soldiers and their families. The "Sears American Dream Campaign" sold HomeFront greeting cards to be distributed as thank-you cards to military families, and donated the proceeds to NMFA's "Operation Purple."

SHC's "Heroes at Home" program assists military families facing hardship. They provide "warmth, safety and accessibility" to homeowners who are physically or financially unable to complete home repairs and improvements.

Holiday shoppers can do their part to help support troops this year by doing the bulk of their purchasing at Sears and Kmart.

The Operation provides a series of summer camps for children of deployed military personnel. The camps bring together children of deployed parents from all branches of the armed forces and help teach them the difference between military pay and Sears' employee's salaries and maintains all benefits, including medical, dental and life insurance for eligible employees called to duty in the Reserves or National Guard. They offer such coverage for up to five years per person (raised from three years in 2004). Employees are also eligible to receive annual merit pay increases or incentive pay while deployed.

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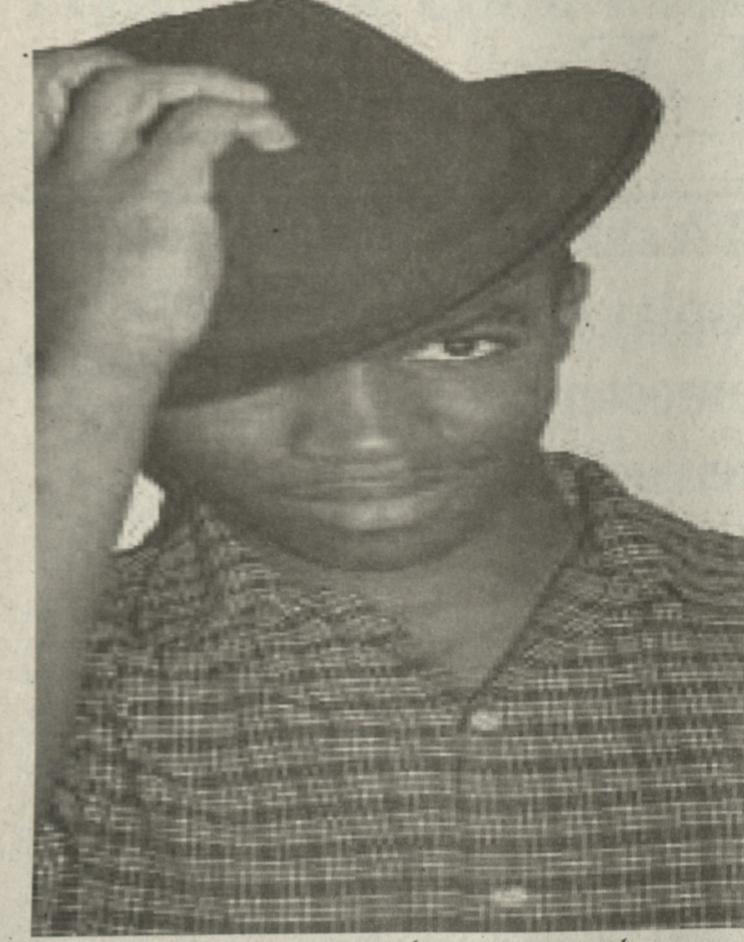
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## CONGRATULATIONS Mr. Advice

Our beloved Mr. Advice is graduating this semester. Good luck to you. We wish you the best in everything that you do!

Interested in becoming our next Mr. or Ms. Advice??? E-mail us at [flyer@salisbury.edu](mailto:flyer@salisbury.edu)



Leslie Pusey photo  
SAA club members Andrea Bolinger, Amy Brown, Allison Berg (standing) and Melissa Burch (sitting).

## EACE program offers a road trip to the real world

By Christina Barry  
Staff Writer

Are you still unsure what you want to do at the professional level when you graduate from college? With graduation looming in the near horizon for many SU students, several are still questioning where their life may take them once they permanently leave campus. However, with Salisbury University being part of the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE) Liberal Arts Network, students may be able to find

their way towards that career or job most suitable for them.

EACE proclaims itself to be one of the largest regional college-to-employer networks.

The program consists of about 1200 members from 817 colleges, and about 258 employers, according to their Web site at [www.eace.org](http://www.eace.org).

With goals from professional development to the use of

beneficial optimal technology, EACE is the leading professional association in career fields in the northeast.

Over winter break, students of

Salisbury University are able to take

advantage of this career-oriented service and explore numerous careers and internships, plus learn more about different companies involved with EACE.

Students, who will need to provide their own food and transportation, are able to be part of a "site visit" and learn first-hand about the different career fields.

After learning these site visits are completely free, and realizing the different companies that are involved, I am really looking forward to trying to expand and network in these different companies," said Amy Harrison, an SU

student. "This is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to reach their dreams of being a successful individual."

From non-profit companies to a few of the world's largest corporations, some of the different site visits included in the visit range from New York, Virginia, D.C., Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maryland. Companies participating with the EACE include the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, The Herald-Mail Company, MEDITECH, Museum of Science, NBC Universal,

New England Aquarium, The Fresh Air Fund, The Philadelphia Zoo, Rodale, Makovsky + Company, Sirius Satellite Radio, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, Vanguard, the New York State Senate, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Target stores, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Young & Rubicam and more.

"Being a communications major, I have always been worried about this highly competitive field. With this experience, I hope to meet new people and be able to network more. Finding

the right job is about knowing people and being able to get your name out there," said Brett Dickinson, an aspiring sports writer.

While taking and being part of a "Road Trip to the Real World," many companies allow students to tour their building and day-to-day interactions.

Presentations, speakers and executives might also be available for a more in-depth experience.

For more information or to register for participation in one of the road trips, visit [www.eace.org/networks/liberalarts/studentinfo.html](http://www.eace.org/networks/liberalarts/studentinfo.html).

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## From the SU Public Relations Office.....

### SU Alumus honored at 2007 Winter Commencement ceremony

Two of Maryland's most respected legislators and an SU alumus whose foundation is changing the world for children with terminal illnesses are honored during Salisbury University's 82nd year Winter Commencement 2 p.m. Saturday, December 15, at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center.

Delegate Norman Conway ('65) receives the Lifetime Achievement Award, while Maryland Senator J. Lowell Stoltzfus receives the Service to Society Award ('73). Casey Cares Foundation founder Casey Baynes ('96) is bestowed the Young Alumna Award.

Conway also has served 43 years with the Salisbury Fire Department. As a result of that service he became a member of the Halls of Fame of both the Delmarva Firemen's Historical Foundation and the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Born in Portstown, PA, and receiving his B.A. in English and sociology in 1965 and his M.Ed. in 1970. He has served as a teacher and administrator in the Wicomico County school system for 37 years. His wife, Jan, also an education graduate of SU, is principal at Glen Avenue Elementary School.

Conway has always believed in two very important values: first, family and friends are the most important things in the world, and second, giving back to one's community helps ensure that community will remain vibrant.

His commitment to public service began at an early age. He was elected to the Salisbury City Council in 1974, where he served for 13 years, the last five as president. He won a seat in the Maryland House of Delegates in 1986, where he is still serving the residents of the Lower Eastern Shore.

In the Maryland legislature, Conway has served on two of the most important committees in the state. The Larson Commission, which made major recommendations for the University of Maryland, and the Thornton Commission, which recommended major changes in state school funding on the basis of equity and adequacy for all public schools in the state. He holds senior leadership positions on two House committees

with critical importance to the Eastern Shore and to SU's chair of the Capital Budget Sub-Committee and the powerful Appropriations Committee.

These positions led directly to Conway's selection as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Spending Affordability—the committee of delegates and senators charged with setting the spending limit for the state budget.

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### NCUR volunteers greatly needed

When Salisbury University welcomes some 2,600 of the nation's top undergraduate scholars for the 22nd National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) next April, an extensive team of volunteers are needed.

"We are looking for approximately 500 to 600 volunteers," said Heather Holmes, NCUR volunteer coordinator and SU's director of Student Activities, Organizations and Leadership. "Any students, faculty and staff who are willing to help are welcome."

From stuffing conference packets, to providing airport shuttles, to monitoring poster sessions, volunteers are needed both before and during the conference (April 10-12).

"Volunteers may select what they would like to do and we need help with everything from distributing food to setting-up and breaking-down rooms, putting up signs, manning registration and information tables, and setting-up for the beach party," Holmes said. Student clubs, honor societies and other organizations are especially encouraged to sign up to help as a group.

In addition, NCUR organizers are looking for faculty moderators to assist with student presentations and poster sessions.

All volunteers will receive a free conference T-shirt. Other benefits include the opportunity to network with students and faculty from campuses across the United States.

"It's a great way to meet people and find out about other institutions, such as for graduate school," Holmes said. "The conference itself provides the entire campus community the chance to hear interesting student research and our four guest speakers."

NCUR is the largest professional organization in the country devoted to undergraduate research. Students from all 50 states representing 300-400 colleges and universities are expected to present in 56 different disciplines.

SU is the only university in Maryland to host NCUR and the first comprehensive university in the United States to host two NCUR conferences (the first was in 1998).

To register as a volunteer, visit the SU NCUR Web site at [www.salisbury.edu/ncur22](http://www.salisbury.edu/ncur22). For more information, contact Dr. Holmes at 410-546-6928.

Admission to commencement is by ticket only. A reception at the Civic Center follows the ceremony. For more information call 410-543-6030 or visit the SU Web site at [www.salisbury.edu](http://www.salisbury.edu).

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### Out of the Suggestion Box

This column is based on the comments and concerns of students, faculty, and staff via the suggestion boxes placed around SU's campus. Please note that the suggestion box is now located at [www.salisbury.edu/suggestionbox](http://www.salisbury.edu/suggestionbox). The President's Office seeks responses to the issues raised from appropriate campus personnel. Not everything can be fixed, but a reasoned explanation can be offered. Keep those suggestions coming!

From the new online Suggestion Box: "Please put paper towels in the 1st floor bathrooms of GUC. All the other bathrooms on campus give you the option of the blowers or paper towels but this one. I hate that I wash my hands and then have to open a door that a million other people have touched who probably haven't washed their hands. This is probably the most used bathroom on campus; however it is the least up-to-date."

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# ★ Sea Gulls ★

★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★

## Women's Basketball

The Salisbury University women's basketball team lost their Capital Athletic Conference opener falling to the No. 6 ranked University of Mary Washington 97-54 last Wednesday. The 43-point loss is the largest margin of defeat suffered by the Sea Gulls in 16 years, dating back to when Rowan downed SU 106-59 on January 7, 1992. The Eagles (4-0 CAC 1-0) had five players score in double figures, led by Ashton Mitchell who recorded 21 points and nine rebounds. After trading baskets to open the contest UMW went on a 26-6 run nine minutes into the game to take a 27-12 advantage. The Eagles would increase their lead to 51-24 by halftime. Monica Merkel recorded 18 points for the Gulls and Megan Phillips scored eight points while recording a team-high five rebounds. Salisbury had 21 turnovers, and were outscored 42-16 in the paint.

## Men's Basketball

The Salisbury University men's basketball team dropped their Capital Athletic Conference opener 69-53 to the University of Mary Washington last Wednesday. Greg Palmer led the Gulls with 18 points

and also pulled down a team-high five rebounds. Gary Ward filled the stat sheet scoring 10 points, while recording four rebounds and four assists. Salisbury shot 32 percent from the field while the Eagles made 52 percent of their attempts. UMW's Jon Pierce and Brandon Altmann each scored 15 points to lead the Eagles in their victory.

## Swimming

Salisbury University women's swim team defeated both York College and Goucher College last Saturday while the men's team downed Goucher but fell to the Spartans at York. The women's team (3-4 CAC 2-2) was led by freshman Becky Akers who won the 1000 yard freestyle race in a time of 11:18. Freshman Katy Turner won the 200 yard IM in a time of 2:19. The SU women defeated York 119-83 and downed Goucher by a margin of 112-91.

The Salisbury men's team (3-4 CAC 2-2) was led by Drew Robichaud who won the 1000 yard freestyle race in a time of 10:41. Ben Overholt and Ross Spangler finished one-two, respectively, in the 200 yard freestyle with times of 1:52 and 1:53. The men defeated Goucher, 160-28

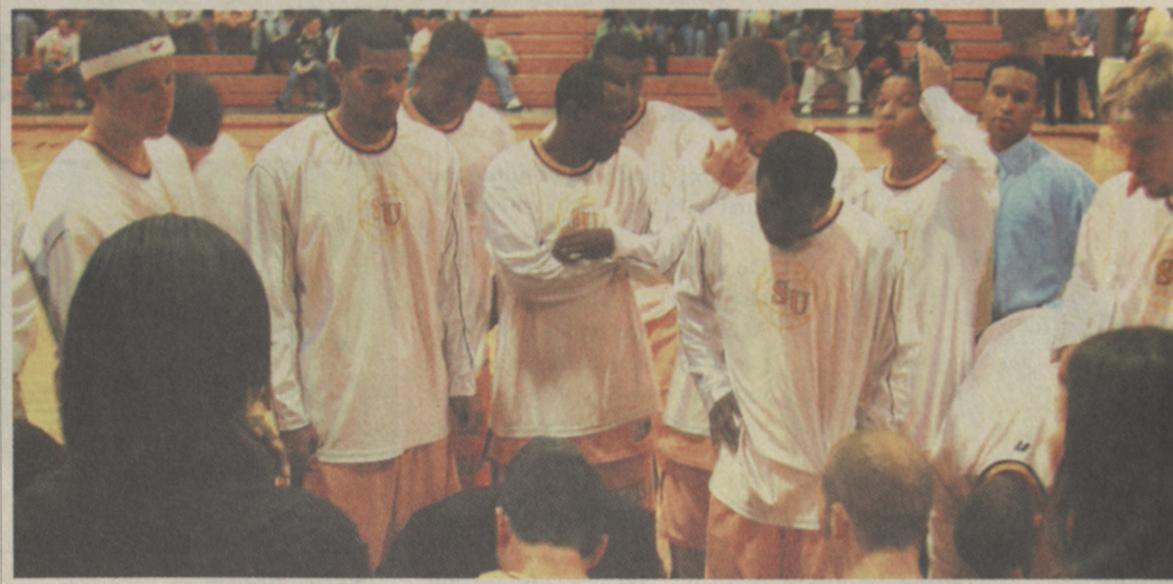
but were defeated by York, 138-65. The Sea Gulls will take on Hood College at the Maggs Center on January 5 at 2 in a Capital Athletic Conference meet.

## Women's Soccer

Salisbury University forward Kate Weaver has been selected to the 2007 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American Women's Soccer first team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Weaver is the 14th Sea Gull player to earn Academic All-American honors in the college division since 2001. She is the first Sea Gull to earn first team honors since Nick Pegelow was named to the 2005 baseball first team.

Weaver, a math major, holds a 4.0 grade point average and led the Gulls in all three offensive categories scoring 11 goals while adding eight assists to compile 30 points on the season. Weaver was named the 2007 CAC player of the year and was a first team All-CAC selection at forward. Weaver is ranked third all-time in goals with 36, fourth all-time in assists with 17 and is tied for second all-time in school history with 89 points.

# SU men can't right ship during Optimist Classic



By Shawn Nisson  
Sports Editor

The Salisbury University men's basketball team fell to 2-6 over the weekend losing twice during the 2007 Optimist Classic held in Maggs gym. The Gulls were defeated last Friday night by Albright College 78-57, and then lost to Ramapo College on Saturday 91-68. The Sea Gulls have now lost six straight games.

On Friday the Gulls fell behind early and would never come back to hold an advantage over the Lions of Albright College. Gary Ward led the team in scoring with 17 points while recording two steals, Jonas Vatikus had 10 points and a team high seven rebounds, and Brandon Abney chipped in 11 points. However, Salisbury struggled to

find an offensive rhythm against the Lions, while Albright was able to find the open player and sink the open shot. Albright's Andre Murphy was deadly from long range hitting 4-of-5 three point shots while leading all scorers with 21 points.

Salisbury shot 36 percent from the floor, and made only 14 percent of their shots from behind the three point line. SU got out rebounded 39-28 and allowed Albright to score 42 points in the paint.

Unfortunately for the Gulls, they would play no better against the Roadrunners of Ramapo College. Ward would again lead the team in scoring, this time contributing 19 points while connecting on 5-of-10 three point shots, he also added four rebounds and doled out

three assists. Ward's effort over the weekend was rewarded as he was named to the all-tournament team. Abney contributed to the Gulls cause again adding 15 points and four rebounds in the loss.

Ramapo was led by Tim Wesley who scored a game high 23 points on 10-of-12 shooting while also handing out five assists. Omar Alston scored 13 points and had five rebounds, while Ahmad Hassan came off the bench to record 20 points, three assists, and six steals in 21 minutes on the floor. The Sea Gulls again had trouble defending the paint as the Roadrunners held a 56-18 advantage in that department.

Salisbury's next home game will be Wednesday, December 5 as they face off with St. Mary's in a Capital Athletic Conference battle.

# ★ Salisbury ★

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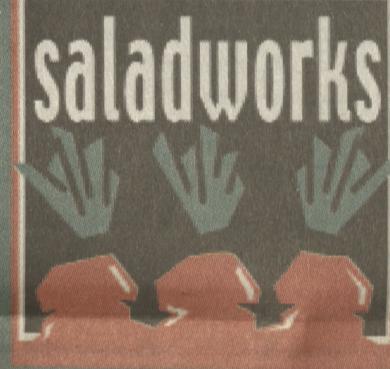
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# SALISBURY SPORTS CALENDAR

Tuesday-12/4

Wednesday-12/5

Thursday-12/6

Friday-12/7

Saturday-12/8

Sunday-12/9

Monday-12/10

5:30 pm Women's Basketball  
vs. St. Mary's (Md.)

7:30 pm Men's Basketball vs.  
St. Mary's (Md.)

4 pm Men's Basketball vs.  
York (Pa.)